

Application Serial No. 10/508,885
Reply to Office Action of July 24, 2008

PATENT
Docket: CU-3914

REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated July 24, 2008, the Examiner states that Claims 1-13 are pending, Claims 1-4 are withdrawn, and Claims 5-13 are rejected. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

1. Rejection of Claims 5-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 5-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan 808 (JP 08-112808) in view of Sucech et al. (US 5,683,635), Hauber et al. (US 6,878,321), Birdsey (US 1,514,827) and Ferguson (US 5,799,458) for the reasons of record. Applicant respectfully disagrees with and traverses this rejection.

To support a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the Office Action must establish "a finding that the prior art included each element claimed, although not necessarily in a single prior art reference, with the only difference between the claimed invention and the prior art being the lack of actual combination of the elements in a single prior art reference." Examination Guidelines for Determining Obviousness Under 35 U.S.C. 103 in view of *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 72 Fed. Reg. 57,526 (Oct. 10, 2007).

At the outset, Applicant has amended Claim 5 to include the feature of wherein the slurry for application for the non-spread portions in step (c) conducted prior to step (g) is applied to outsides of scoring lines of the front surface covering base paper which define a width of the plaster board. Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited prior art is completely silent with respect to this feature.

In particular, Japan 808 discloses that "[t]herefore, slurry spread in the directions of the width of the base paper A on the spread portion 20 is allowed to flow from both ends of the application roll 14 through the non-spreading portion 20 and to flow from both ends of a thin layer into edge portions of the base paper A (edge portions of a gypsum board with both end parts having been folded), respectively," but does not teach or suggest wherein the slurry for application for the non-spread portions in step (c) conducted prior to step (g) is applied to outsides of scoring lines of the front surface covering base paper which define a width of the plaster board (emphasis added; see paragraph [0015]). Moreover, one of ordinary skill in the art would find no motivation from this reference or have any expectation of success in modifying the teachings of Japan 808 to include applying the slurry to outsides of scoring lines of the front surface covering base paper which define a

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width of the plaster board.

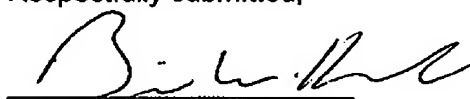
Since independent Claim 5 is allowable over the cited prior art, Applicant asserts that all claims depending therefrom are allowable for at least the same reasons, as well as for the features that they recite. As such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the present rejection.

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

October 23, 2008

Date



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